



MIBA Conference Offers Artist's Training and Showcase

"Pathways to Opportunities" is the theme for the annual Montana Indian Business Conference and Showcase.

The MIBA conference is slated for April 20-21, 2009, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula. Artist's workshops begin a day earlier, and run April 19-20, 2009.

Indian Artist's Business Training

The Montana Arts Council will again partner with the First People's Fund and attorney Bill Frazier to offer workshops for Indian artists attending the conference.

The workshops begin April 19, one day before the conference, and run concurrently with the conference on April 20. Workshop sessions are scheduled for 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, April 19, and 9:15 a.m.-noon and 2-5:30 p.m. Monday, April 20. Sessions include "Native Art Marketing and Professional Development Workshop," and "Protecting Your Artwork: Helpful Laws for Artists in the State of Montana."

Space is limited to 20 artists, and subsidies are available for lodging and to cover the MIBA registration fee. For more information about the workshops and to register, contact Dyani Bingham at 406-545-8983 or email dyani_b@hotmail.com by the deadline of April 10, 2009.

Showcase for Indian Artists and Businesses

This year's conference will again host an Indian Artist and Indian Business Showcase, which offers a tremendous opportunity for Indian artists and Indian business owners to exhibit and sell their artwork or business products and services.

Showcase space is limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserve your space early. For more information about participating in the showcase, contact Dyani Bingham at 406-545-8983 or dyani_b@hotmail.com.

Register directly at the MIBA website at www.mibaonline.org.

Silent Auction

All showcase artists are encouraged to bring a special work of art that they made to sell in the silent auction. The auction will open at noon on Monday and close at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday with the bid winners to be announced at the end of the final luncheon on Tuesday. The total amount of the winning bids will go to the artist and the bid winners can take their prizes home with them that day. Everyone is welcome to bid on the silent auction items.

Conference Location

The Hilton Garden Inn is located at 3720 North Reserve St. in Missoula. Call 406-532-5300 or visit www.hiltongardeninn.com.